

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370-5000

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUPERSINST 1710.19
Pers-651
17 SEP 1993

BUPERSINST 1710.19

From: Chief of Naval Personnel

Subj: AQUATIC PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES

Ref: (a) BUPERSINST 1710.11B
(b) NAVMED P-5010-4
(c) OPNAVINST 5100.25
(d) NAVCOMPTMAN Vol 7 Para 075500-075524
(e) NAVMILPERSCOMINST 5890.1 (NOTAL)
(f) NAVFAC MO-210

Encl: (1) Definitions
(2) Aquatic Facility Safety Rules and Regulations
(3) Certification Organization Equivalents
(4) Program Operation
(5) Facility Operation
(6) Aquatic Facility Safety Equipment Requirements

1. Purpose. To provide revised policy and guidance for the operation and management of aquatic programs and facilities in order to ensure a safe environment and promote quality aquatic programs and facilities on naval installations per references (a) through (f). This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. NAVMILPERSCOMINST 1710.6A.

3. Policy and Scope. It is the policy of the Navy to provide naval personnel and their family members with programs which effectively contribute to their morale and well-being. Aquatic programs and facilities relate to the quality of life enhancement in the Navy community. Aquatic programs and facilities should be operated as an element of the Navy Recreation Program as prescribed in reference (a).

a. The policy and guidance set forth in this instruction shall be applicable to all aquatic facilities and programs operated on naval installations under the auspices of the Chief of Naval Personnel (Pers-65).

b. Aquatic facilities and programs shall be operated without discrimination as to race, color, sex, national origin, religious belief, or grade or rank of sponsor.

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4. Responsibilities

a. Chief of Naval Personnel (Pers-65) shall:

(1) Develop and provide guidance concerning management and operation of aquatic programs and facilities.

(2) Monitor program operations to ensure compliance and consistency of recreational aquatic programs with established policies, procedures and guidelines set forth in reference (a) and this instruction.

(3) Provide technical assistance and training to commands.

b. Commanding officers shall:

(1) Assure compliance with established Navy policies, procedures, and guidelines of this instruction.

(2) Establish local program and facility operating policies and procedures.

c. Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery shall:

(1) Provide support and technical assistance on health and sanitation, water quality, and treatment standards.

(2) Conduct health and sanitation surveys, at command request, to assess health and sanitation program effectiveness.

d. Commander, Naval Safety Center shall:

(1) Provide support and technical assistance on safety matters in the prevention of accidents and promotion of safety.

(2) Assist in conducting safety surveys, at command request, to assess safety program effectiveness.

5. Action. Commanding officers shall ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in this instruction.

Distribution:
(See next page)

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DEFINITIONS

1. Aquatic Facility. The physical site of a specific aquatic activity. The aquatic facility may be a pool, a lake, the ocean front, or other bodies of water.

a. Waterfront Area. An aquatic facility that includes beaches, lakes, reservoirs, rivers, lagoons, or other bodies of water located on naval installations. These areas are operated by the local Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department and are developed for use by eligible patrons for recreational swimming or water sport activities. Waterfront areas may have a designated swimming, surfing, boating, or other water sport activity areas.

b. Swimming Pool. An aquatic facility that includes indoor and outdoor recreational swimming pools located on naval installations or within Navy housing areas. These facilities are operated by the local MWR Department and are developed for use by eligible patrons for recreational swimming activities. Swimming pools may provide designated areas and specialized equipment for swimming, diving, or water sliding.

c. Wading Pool. An aquatic facility that includes indoor and outdoor wading pools that may or may not be attached to, adjacent to, or enclosed with the main swimming pool. Wading pools have a maximum depth of 24 inches and are intended for use by infants, toddlers, and children under 6 years of age. Wading pools are subject to the same rules and regulations as described in enclosure (2).

2. Aquatic Programs. An organized recreational activity occurring in, on or near an aquatic facility.

3. Certification. Denotes that the individual possesses the appropriate level of certification, and that such certification is current (i.e., it has not expired).

4. Equivalent Certification. Recognizes and allows for the acceptance of certifications from several nationally or internationally recognized organizations. Enclosure (3) provides a list of equivalent certification. Certifications not listed required approval from BUPERS (Pers-65).

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5. Lifeguard. A staff member who possesses the required certification to provide lifesaving and rescue skills. Enclosure (3) provides a list of recognized lifeguard certifications. Lifeguard certification qualifies the staff member to be assigned the supervisory responsibility of all areas of the aquatic facility.

6. Water Safety Aide. A staff member who possesses certification to perform elementary forms of non-swimming rescues, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), first aid, enforce water safety rules and regulations, and implement accident and emergency procedures. Enclosure (3) provides a list of recognized water safety aide certifications. Water safety aide certification qualifies the staff member to be assigned the supervisory responsibility of all areas of the swimming pool or waterfront area excluding the swimmers' zone and the diving zone.

7. Non-Certified Water Safety Assistant. A non-certified staff member who possesses the knowledge and ability to perform elementary forms of non-swimming rescues, enforce water safety regulations, assist with accident and emergency procedures, and provide routine aquatic supervision. The non-certified water safety assistant may assist the lifeguard or water safety aide, and must be under the direct supervision of a lifeguard or water safety aide at all times.

8. Swimming Instructor. A staff member who possesses the required certification to instruct swimming, aquatic fitness, lifesaving or rescue skills and techniques. Enclosure (3) provides a list of recognized swimming instructor certifications. Swimming instructor certification qualifies the staff member to instruct swimming, fitness or water safety classes conducted at the aquatic facility.

9. Non-Certified Instructional Assistant. A non-certified staff member who possesses the knowledge and ability to instruct swimming, aquatic fitness, lifesaving or rescue skills and techniques. Non-certified instructional assistants may assist the swimming instructor with swimming, aquatic fitness, or lifesaving or rescue classes, and must be under the direct supervision of a swimming instructor at all times.

10. Swimmers. Individuals who participate in an aquatic activity and/or attend the aquatic facility as patrons.

11. Non-swimmers' Zone. That area of the pool or waterfront where the depth of the water is 5 feet or less.

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12. Swimmers' Zone. That area of the swimming pool or waterfront where the depth of the water is greater than 5 feet (exclusive of the diving zone).

13. Diving Zone. That area of the swimming pool where the depth of water is greater than 9 feet.

AQUATIC FACILITY SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Facility Rules and Regulations. Minimum rules and regulations are required for swimming pools and waterfront areas.

a. Minimum rules and regulations common to swimming pools and waterfront areas:

(1) Aquatic facility rules and regulations should be posted at prominent locations throughout the aquatic facility.

(2) Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by, and under the direct supervision of, an individual whose minimum age is 16 years. Children between the ages of 10 and 16, if left unattended, must demonstrate the ability to swim a minimum of 25 yards.

(3) Swimmers, divers, surfers, boaters, and water sport activity participants are required to remain in designated areas.

(4) Glass in any form will not be permitted at the aquatic facility.

(5) Patrons who appear to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed in or near the aquatic facility.

(6) Fraternizing with the on-duty lifeguard is not permitted.

(7) Pets of any type are not allowed at the aquatic facility.

(8) The aquatic facility and the surrounding area will be cleared of all persons during squalls and thunderstorms for a period of time as determined by the lifeguard.

(9) In the event of a rescue, the lifeguard will notify the base medical command, command duty officer, and the local Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department management representative.

(10) Aquatic facility employees are not responsible for lost or stolen possessions of patrons.

(11) Climbing on the lifeguard stands or using lifesaving equipment for other than emergency use is strictly prohibited.

(12) Swimming is not permitted when a lifeguard is not on duty.

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(13) Aquatic facility employees must be obeyed at all times, and have the authority to suspend pool privileges for the day or portions of the day for individuals who repeatedly violate the rules or regulations. Continued violations may result in longer suspension of privileges with command approval.

b. Minimum rules and regulations for swimming pools:

(1) Admission fees will be collected upon entering the swimming pool by the cashier/pool attendant. All patrons are required to sign the daily log upon entering.

(2) All swimmers must shower before entering the pool.

(3) Persons with colds, skin infections or open wounds are not permitted to enter the pool.

(4) Contaminating the pool or walkway is prohibited.

(5) Swimmers must wear clean and appropriate swim wear. Cutoff jeans or pants are not authorized. Swimming with eyeglasses is permitted if they are safety glasses and properly secured with appropriate straps.

(6) Neither eating nor drinking is permitted within a minimum of 12 feet of the pool. A distinguishing mark will indicate the area beyond the pool where eating and drinking are permitted. No smoking is permitted in indoor swimming pool areas. Smoking may be permitted in designated areas of outdoor pools that are clearly marked where possible. Designated smoking areas should be at least 25 feet from bathhouse entrances and away from immediate pool area.

(7) Aquatic toys and equipment will not be permitted in the pool enclosure at any time. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to, rafts, kickboards, inner tubes, scuba gear, swim fins, masks, water wings, balls, frisbees, inflatable objects, or other similar water play items. The use of these items is only authorized for organized programs or classes conducted in addition to the hours of operation. Kickboards and other items of equipment used for lap swimming are authorized. The use of U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices is authorized at any time.

(8) Portable radios, televisions, or music devices (with the exception of small devices equipped with headphones) will not be permitted in the pool enclosure at any time.

(9) Running, pushing, dunking, or excessive splashing are strictly prohibited. Loud, boisterous or unruly conduct or behavior will not be permitted.

(10) The number of persons in the pool enclosure at any one time will not exceed maximum pool capacity. The number of persons in the pool of an indoor facility at any one time will not exceed maximum pool capacity.

(11) All diving shall be a forward jump or dive straight off the diving board. One person at a time will use the board and will be limited to one bounce before entering the water. Back dives and trick dives will not be performed.

c. Minimum rules and regulations for waterfront areas:

(1) Swimming is not permitted after dark.

(2) Scuba gear is not permitted in the swimming area.

(3) Fishing is not permitted in or near the swimming area.

(4) Signs must be posted to warn patrons of shallow water, riptides, beach closure, and other hazardous conditions.

CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION EQUIVALENTS

1. Lifeguard

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training
American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Instructor
YMCA Lifeguard Training
YMCA Lifeguard Training Instructor
YMCA Aquatics Instructor Trainer
Ellis and Associates Waterpark Training Program
U.S. Navy Rescue Swimmer School (Aviation)
U.S. Navy Rescue Swimmer School (Surface)
U.S. Navy Rescue Swimmer Instructor
U.S. Navy Basic Underwater Dive School
Naval Aviation Water Survival Training Program
National Lifeguard Service Certification in Pool, Waterfront or Surf (Canada)
Royal Lifesaving Society of Canada Bronze Medallion
Royal Lifesaving Society of the United Kingdom Lifeguard Corps or Open-Water Certificate
Royal Lifesaving Society of the United Kingdom Bronze Medallion
Surf Lifesaving Association of Great Britain
Royal Lifesaving Society Lifeguard Corps (Australia & New Zealand)
Surf Lifesaving Association (Australia & New Zealand)
Royal Lifesaving Society Bronze Medallion (Australia & New Zealand)
Federation Nationale des Maitres Nageur Sauveteurs Lifeguard (France)
Federation Nationale des Maitres Nageur Sauveteurs Dauphin de Bronze (France)
Deutscher RettungsschwimmpaB (Germany)

2. Swimming Instructor

American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor
American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Trainer
American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Instructor
YMCA Progressive Swimming Instructor
YMCA Skipper Swimming Instructor
YMCA Lifeguard Training Instructor
YMCA Water Exercise Instructor
YMCA Aquatics for Special Populations Instructor
YMCA Synchronized Swimming Instructor
YMCA/Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program Instructor
U.S. Navy Rescue Swimmer Instructor
Royal Lifesaving Society of Canada Instructor
Royal Lifesaving Society of Canada Advanced Teacher's Certificate

PROGRAM OPERATION

1. Program Objectives. Aquatic programs should:

a. Offer eligible patrons the opportunity to engage in a variety of aquatic activities that promote the psychological, social, and physical well-being of an individual.

b. Implement and facilitate a variety of recreation activities based on the participant's abilities and interests. These activities should provide opportunities which promote physical fitness; assist in the discovery of positive uses of leisure time; develop life-long recreation skills; and promote and encourage knowledge and awareness of water safety.

c. Support Navy readiness and retention by providing opportunities that enhance the quality of life through recreation activities that promote physical fitness and provide constructive uses of leisure time.

2. Eligibility. Active duty military, their family members, and other authorized patrons as provided for in reference (a) are eligible to use aquatic facilities and participate in aquatic programs.

3. Funding. Recreational swimming pools are operated as an element of the MWR Program as a Category B activity. Aquatic training facilities are operated as an element of the MWR Program as a Category A activity. The use of appropriated funds (APF) per reference (d) is authorized and encouraged. The commanding officer shall approve the fees and charges to be assessed to program participants in an effort to help defray the cost of operating an aquatic facility or program.

a. The use of daily admission fees is authorized for the use of aquatic facilities. The daily fee should be valid for admission throughout the day at the facility. All patrons who enter the facility, regardless of purpose (e.g., swimming, sunbathing, child supervision), should be assessed the daily admission fee. Fees should be established for adults (16 years of age and older) and children (6-15 years of age). Children under 6 years of age should be admitted free. Active duty members should be permitted free admission during those hours scheduled for lap swimming.

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b. The use of weekly, monthly, seasonal, or yearly facility admission passes is authorized for the use of aquatic facilities. These passes should provide a discounted fee for use over an extended period of time (when compared to daily admission fees). The fee structure can also include separate rates for individuals (one person) and families (sponsor and family members).

4. Staffing. The minimum staffing requirements are as follows:

a. A minimum of two certified lifeguards are required to be on duty at the pool perimeter during regular hours of operation and for special events. Special circumstances (e.g., few patrons) may warrant a waiver to the above policy. Request for waiver should be directed to BUPERS (Pers-651C) via the chain of command.

b. For aquatic programs that are conducted in addition to the regular hours of operation of the swimming pool or waterfront area (i.e., lap swim hours, aquatic fitness classes, swimming or water safety instruction), one staff member is required to be on duty at the pool perimeter (according to patron/staff ratios).

c. Staff members with proper qualifications/certifications should be assigned and limited to the appropriate areas of responsibility as described in paragraphs 5 through 9 of enclosure (1).

5. Staff/Patron Ratio. The ratio of certified staff members to patrons must be maintained to allow constant supervision of patrons while in the aquatic facility. This preserves a safe environment and allows for an effective and efficient response to an emergency situation. The ratio requirements are as follows:

a. One certified staff member is required for every 50 patrons. However, the only certified staff members that may be counted in the staff/patron ratio are lifeguards and water safety aides.

b. Non-certified water safety assistants, swimming instructors, and non-certified instructional aides may not be counted in the staff/patron ratio, but may assist the lifeguard or water safety aide with the number of assigned patrons.

c. Staff members who perform other duties or services (i.e., cashier, maintenance, etc.) may not be counted in the staff/patron ratio.

d. The ratio of certified staff members to patrons should be increased to compensate for extenuating characteristics or conditions of the environment (e.g., surf, currents, platforms or structures,

activities, etc.), or the skill or ability levels of the patrons (e.g., small children).

6. Swimming Zones. The swimming pool or waterfront area is divided into zones as described in paragraphs 11 through 13 of enclosure (1). The following requirements apply:

a. The swimmers' zone and diving zone of the swimming pool must be separated by a buoy line tightly fastened to each side of the pool.

b. A minimum of one staff member should be assigned to, and stationed at, each nonswimmers' zone, swimmers' zone, diving zone, and at the perimeter of the swimming pool or waterfront area. For small rectangular pools with a surface area of less than 5000 square feet and without a diving zone, one lifeguard may be assigned for both nonswimmers' and swimmers' zones (according to patron/staff ratios).

7. Wading Pool. The wading pool and surrounding area is supervised by aquatic staff members. However, a wading pool does not require a lifeguard stand, or a staff member to be physically stationed at the wading pool perimeter. The direct supervision of the child must be maintained by the parent, sponsor, or the individual responsible for the child. This individual must remain in constant and direct supervision of the child while using the wading pool.

8. Staff Qualifications. The qualifications for the following positions should be:

a. Aquatic Program Director

(1) BS/BA in Recreation or related field; or

(2) 2 years of college with a related major; or

(3) High School diploma with at least 5 years of experience and training in recreation or related field.

(4) Possess or have evidence of having possessed one or more of the following certifications: (1) American Red Cross or Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Lifeguard Training or equivalent; (2) YMCA Aquatic Facility Manager or Pool Operators On Location Course; or (3) National Pool and Spa Institute Certified Pool Operator.

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(5) Have had previous experience in management or supervisory position at a similar aquatic area.

b. Lifeguard. Possess current certification from a recognized organization as described in enclosure (3).

c. Water Safety Aide. Possess current certification from a recognized organization as described in enclosure (3).

9. Training Program. Lifeguards must have certification from a recognized organization that provides an instructional qualification program in lifesaving and rescue skills. Enclosure (3) provides a list of equivalent certification from recognized organizations.

a. In-service staff training is recommended for all aquatic personnel. This training program should be implemented in order for staff members to periodically review and have a thorough understanding of operating policies and procedures, emergency procedures, rescue methods and techniques, and to allow staff members to maintain appropriate physical condition to perform the duties of the position. Staff members should receive an orientation to include: (1) facility operating policies and procedures; (2) appropriate uniform/attire; (3) appropriate behavior/conduct; (4) program and activity policies and procedures; (5) health and sanitation rules and regulations; (6) safety rules and regulations; (7) emergency procedures; (8) medical emergency procedures; (9) rule violation/disciplinary procedures; and (10) accident/incident reporting procedures.

b. In addition to in-service training, the use of professional aquatic organization/association training programs is encouraged.

10. Personnel Health Requirements

a. Staff members must be in good physical and mental health and free from communicable disease.

b. Staff members shall maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness and level of physical fitness.

c. Staff members should not be required to provide lifeguard services for more than 50 minutes of each hour prior to taking a 10-minute break.

11. Program of Activities. The aquatic program director shall plan, coordinate and implement aquatic recreation programs, classes and events following the policies and procedures outlined in reference (a) and this instruction. It is recommended that the program director design a calendar of events on an annual basis, and determine detailed program plans at least 3 months in advance. Aquatic programs should include, but are not limited to, the following components:

a. Swim Instruction. An element of aquatic programming that plans, organizes and conducts swimming classes, clinics or workshops for all ages and ability levels as an MWR-sponsored program or in coordination with other agencies or organizations. A comprehensive swim instruction program includes incremental skill advancement classes for school-age youths and adults; introductory swimming skills and aquatic facility familiarization skills for infants, toddlers and preschoolers; and water safety classes for school-age youths and adults. The use of instructional equipment and training aids of proper type, size and skill level for the age and physical capabilities of the participants is recommended.

b. Fitness Classes and Programs. An element of aquatic programming that plans, organizes, and conducts aquatic classes and programs that support and encourage physical fitness. These classes or programs are scheduled during, or in addition to, the facility hours of operation. These programs include lap swim hours, water aerobics, sports leagues, distance swimming programs, and swim teams.

c. Special Events. An element of aquatic programming that plans, organizes, and conducts special activities and events in the aquatic environment. These activities include social events, entertainment activities, aquatic sport tournaments, or swim competitions.

12. Local Policies. Local operating instructions should be developed for aquatic programs and facilities to govern the following areas: (1) program management responsibilities; (2) authorized patrons; (3) lifeguard duties and responsibilities; (4) hours of operation; (5) program areas and objectives; (6) fees and charges; (7) rules and regulations; and (8) emergency procedures. Operating instructions should be prominently posted for the information of both employees and patrons.

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a. Appropriate forms should be developed to regulate and facilitate operational procedures. These include daily sign-in forms, facility attendance reports, program participation reports, safety equipment checklists, facility inspection checklists, accident/incident reports and discipline/behavior reports.

b. The facility hours of operation and program schedule should allow for maximum use and participation by eligible patrons.

13. Insurance. BUPERS (Pers-65) maintains a Central Nonappropriated Funded (NAF) Self-Insurance Program for property and liability coverage for programs and events sponsored by MWR departments at naval installations. This coverage provides protection to patrons and guests for any bodily injury and personal property damage that might occur due to some negligence on the part of MWR, as determined by the claims office at the local Naval Legal Service Office that supports each activity. Reference (e) outlines policies and procedures pertinent to the NAF Risk Management Program.

FACILITY OPERATION

1. Swimming Pool Facility Safety Requirements. Criteria and requirements for swimming pool facilities include the following:

a. Water Quality. Pool water shall be free of suspended matter and sufficiently clear to see the pool sides and a 4 inch black disk resting on the bottom of deepest section of the pool. If the disk cannot be clearly seen, the pool will be closed until the water is cleared. Chemical balance and water quality is achieved and maintained with filtration systems and properly balanced chemical additives. Guidance on the criteria and requirements of water quality, recirculation systems, and water treatment is provided in reference (b).

b. Pool Capacity. Safe capacity of the swimming pool facility shall be calculated on the basis of water surface area. The capacity of rectangular and "L" shaped pools shall be calculated by adding the total capacity of the nonswimmers, the swimmers, and the diving zones. The calculations should be completed based on the following criteria:

(1) Nonswimmers' Zone. Count one patron for every 15 square feet of water surface area.

(2) Swimmers' or Intermediate Zone. Count one patron for every 20 square feet of water surface area.

(3) Diving Zone. Count one patron for every 175 square feet of water surface area.

(4) Wading Pool. Count one patron for every 8 square feet of water surface area.

c. Markings

(1) Variations in pool depth of 1 foot shall be marked on the pool deck. For indoor pools, depth markings may also be located on the adjacent walls. For outdoor pools, depth markings may also be mounted on the perimeter fence at the edge of the deck.

(2) Painted or colored tile swimming lane markings should be provided on the bottom of the pool.

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(3) The main drain should be clearly marked by painting the grate a conspicuous color or by laying colored tile around the drain perimeter.

d. Diving Boards and Area

(1) Standard diving "spring" boards shall be 14 to 16 feet long and 1.67 feet (500mm) wide. They shall be factory-fabricated aluminum or fiberglass with a non-slip surface. The standard distances for mounting the board are 1.6 feet (500mm), 3.3 feet (1m) or 9.8 feet (3m) above the water. Each diving board shall have a lockable fulcrum adjustable over a distance of 10 to 12 inches. The base section of each board shall extend at least 5 feet beyond the pool wall for 14 foot boards and 6 feet for 16 foot boards.

(2) Diving stands for diving boards shall be factory-fabricated. Anchorage shall be according to manufacturer's recommendations. Only sloped steps with handrails shall be permitted to the diving boards. Steps may be located either at the end or side of the board depending on deck space available. Handrails shall be provided for all steps and ladders leading to diving boards more than 3.3 feet (1m) above the water. Diving stands 3.3 feet (1m) or higher should be protected with dual-guardrails. The top guardrail shall be a minimum of 2.5 feet above the diving board and extend to a minimum of 1 foot beyond the pool wall.

(3) Measured from the diving board center line, the minimum distance between the diving board and the nearest parallel pool wall shall be 12 feet. The minimum distance between each diving board or water slide should be 12 feet (measured from the diving board or water slide center lines). Existing diving board will be waived until renovated or replaced with new construction.

(4) The number of boards permitted within the area dimensions of the diving zone are as follows:

1 board	=	45 feet x 24 feet
2 boards	=	45 feet x 36 feet
3 boards	=	45 feet x 48 feet

(5) The relationship of the depth of water under the diving board to the length of the diving zone shall conform to the following safety standards:

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Elevation of Diving Board Above Water	Minimum Depth Of Water Under End of Board	Minimum Length of the Diving Well
1.6 feet (500mm)	9 feet	25 feet
3.3 feet (1m)	10 feet	35 feet
9.8 feet (3m)	12 feet	40 feet

(6) The relationship of the diving board to the pool walls, facility ceiling, water depth, and length of the diving zone shall conform to the following safety standards:

Diving Board Elevation Above the Water	1 meter	3 meter
From plummet back to pool wall	8'	8'
From plummet to pool wall at side	10'	12'
From plummet to adjacent plummet	8'	8'
From plummet to pool wall ahead	29'	34'
On plummet, from board to ceiling overhead	18'	18'
Clear overhead, behind and each side of plummet	8'	8'
Clear overhead ahead of plummet	18'	18'
Depth of water at plummet	12'	13'
Distance of depth of water ahead of plummet	20'	20'
Distance and depth of water each side of plummet	8'	10'

(7) Diving platforms with a height of 5 meters, 7 meters, or 10 meters are not authorized for recreational swimming pools.

e. Lifeguard Stands

(1) Lifeguard stands should be factory manufactured and may be fixed or movable. Depending on the space available, the sloped steps may be located at the rear or the side of the support stand.

(2) To minimize the amount of time the lifeguard may be subject to direct sun or glare, the lifeguard stand for outdoor pools should be located so the sun is at the back of the lifeguard or across the field of vision. The placement of the lifeguard stand should allow the lifeguard a field of supervision not to exceed 180 degrees.

(3) A minimum of one lifeguard stand is required for each swimmers' zone and diving zone. When swimmer capacity demands additional lifeguards within these areas and within the nonswimmers' zone, a stationary or perimeter patrol lifeguard post may be created.

f. Pool Accessories

(1) Portable equipment shall be stored and secured in a storage room when not in use.

(2) Inserts and anchors shall be installed in the pool deck according to manufacturer's recommendations. Stanchions and stanchion sockets for supporting backstroke lines, finish lines, recall lines, and splash curtains should be stainless steel with a top closure plug fitted flush with the pool deck when not in use.

(3) No obstructions shall project from the pool wall. Lane line anchor hardware shall be located in the back wall of the gutter, recessed pool wall, or recessed in interior gutter curb.

g. Water Slides. Water slides are permitted in swimming pools where the water depth is 5 feet or greater. Water slide may be located in the swimming or diving zones. When located in the diving zone, the distance between the water slide and a diving board shall be 12 feet from the center line of the diving board to the center line of the water slide.

h. Pool Enclosures

(1) For indoor pools, incorporating sound absorbing materials on wall and ceiling surfaces should be considered to control both echoes and sound reverberation.

(2) A fence or wall a minimum of 6 feet high is required to enclose an outdoor swimming pool.

(3) When perimeter access is necessary, a standard width gate for patrons and personnel entry/exit shall be provided in the perimeter fence. These gates shall be locked to secure the facility.

(4) Three-foot wide gates and larger service gates should be provided to allow equipment/vehicle access to enclosed patios, grassed areas, activity areas, or playgrounds. These gates shall be locked when not in use.

(5) Wading pools should be separated from the main swimming pool by a 4-foot high fence even if the wading pool shares a common deck with the main pool. A 4-foot high fence shall separate the pool deck area from grassed areas, activity areas, or playground areas.

(6) Nonferrous metal, or stainless steel ladders with above deck-mounted grab rails on both sides shall be installed to provide for safe entry and exit from the pool. A minimum of one ladder should be provided on each side of the pool in the diving zone. A minimum of one ladder should be provided in the nonswimmers' zone and swimmers' zone to allow ingress and egress. Additional ladders should be provided at least every 75 feet of pool perimeter. Ladder treads should have non-slip top surfaces. A clearance with a minimum of 3 inches and maximum of 6 inches between the ladder and the pool wall is required. Safe entry and exit from the pool may be provided by steps built or cast into the pool wall.

(7) The pool deck shall be of a non-slip surface and free from irregular surfaces and fittings along accessible routes.

i. Bathhouse

(1) The main traffic pattern should allow easy access to the entry of the bathhouse. A control counter controls the circulation of patrons between all areas of the building. Patrons must enter and exit through a control counter located in or near the bathhouse. The control counter provides supervision of activities in the bathhouse or on the pool deck. Entrances and exits to the pool from the bathhouse shall be planned to introduce the patrons to the pool only at the shallow end.

(2) The bathhouse should provide patrons with dressing areas, clothing storage facilities, benches, toilets, and showers.

(3) Floor surfaces throughout the bathhouse (excluding utility areas such as mechanical equipment and storage rooms) should be of non-slip and impervious material. Concrete floors may be permitted if they are troweled or broom-finished (slip resistant), embossed printed, tinted or epoxy-coated.

(4) The bathhouse should be provided with natural and/or mechanical ventilation to reduce excessive heat and dampness. The walls, ceiling, and floors should be of waterproof and vapor-resistant materials. Hot and cold showers and soap dispensers are required. An adjustable temperature control should be provided (temperature should not exceed 100 degrees fahrenheit). Lavatories with soap dispensers and paper towels or drying devices should be provided.

(5) Glass mirrors or glass objects are not permitted in the bathhouse. Stainless steel mirrors are permitted over counters and against walls.

(6) The use of lockers or baskets to meet the clothing storage requirements is recommended. Lockers or baskets should be by coin operated lock systems, facility issued tag numbers, facility issued keys or padlocks, or patron-furnished padlocks. Lockers should be well ventilated, set on a closed base, and securely anchored to the floor and wall.

j. Communications

(1) Time and competition clocks should be displayed and visible for general information and competitive use.

(2) A public address system is recommended for the purpose of paging and public announcements. Speakers should be provided in the pool enclosure and in the locker/dressing area. Lifeguard stands should include a method of intercommunication with the pool patrons, staff members, the control desk, and the director's office.

(3) A minimum of one telephone is required at the control desk, bathhouse, or lifeguard stand for emergency and business use.

k. Chlorine. Chlorine gas storage areas should have an automatic chlorine gas detection alarm system and a suitable warning sign posted.

2. Waterfront Area Safety Requirements. Criteria and requirements for existing waterfront areas include the following:

a. Lifeguard Stands

(1) Waterfront areas should have a minimum of one lifeguard stand every 200 linear feet of designated waterfront.

(2) Lifeguard supervision patterns shall overlap a minimum of 15 to 20 percent.

b. Markings. Anchored buoys should be provided at waterfront areas to designate the swimming perimeter. Drop-offs, underwater hazards, and wading areas should also be designated.

c. Fixed or Floatable Diving Platforms

(1) Diving platforms should be constructed with 12 inches of visible airspace from the surface of the water to the bottom of the structure. All underwater construction should be kept to a minimum and designed to prevent entrapment of swimmers. Diving platforms or diving devices should not be constructed at heights greater than 9.8 feet (3m) above the water surface.

(2) The following table specifies the minimum depth of water in which diving platforms may be located:

Platform Type	Water Depth for a Distance of 12 feet in all directions
Platforms 1.6 feet (500mm) above the water surface	9'
Platforms 3.3 feet (1m) above the water surface	10'
Platforms 9.8 feet (3m) above the water surface	12'

3. Aquatic Safety Equipment and Requirements. Patrons who participate in aquatic activities or programs accept the responsibility of evaluating their own swimming skill levels and abilities, determining their physical limitations, and remaining in the area of the swimming pool or waterfront area that is commensurate with their ability. The lifeguard may assign or restrict swimmers and nonswimmers to an area, activity or facility depending upon the swimmers' or nonswimmers' swimming skill level. Enclosure (6) provides a list of required aquatic facility safety equipment.

AQUATIC FACILITY SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. General Safety Equipment. The following general safety equipment is required to be readily available and accessible to an on-duty lifeguard at all times:

- a. megaphone
- b. whistle
- c. shade umbrella
- d. sunglasses
- e. visor or cap
- f. drinking water
- g. two-way radio and/or telephone

2. Lifesaving Equipment. The following lifesaving equipment is required to be readily available and accessible to an on duty lifeguard at all times:

a. Swimming Pool

(1) ring buoy with attached lifeline (located on every lifeguard stand)

(2) rescue tube (located on every lifeguard stand)

(3) rescue pole (located on every lifeguard stand)

(4) shepherd's crook

b. Waterfront Area

(1) rescue tube (located on every lifeguard stand)

(2) ring buoy with attached lifeline (located on every lifeguard stand)

(3) rescue board

(4) mask, fins, and snorkel

(5) heaving line

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3. First Aid Equipment. The following first aid equipment is required to be readily available and accessible to a lifeguard at all times:

- a. first aid kit
- b. factory manufactured marine backboard with straps and head immobilizer
- c. cot
- d. blanket
- e. pillow